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Next Review Date: 2008

# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Turkey

DATE:

INFO. 10 January 1947

DIST. 27 February 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT 25X1A2g

SUBJECT Repatriation of Armenians

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ORIGIN

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1. It is reported that the Ministry of Interior of Soviet Armenia has notified various consulates that housing arrangements are not yet sufficient to permit the arrival of further large groups of immigrants. Up to the present, the following groups have reached Erivan:

From Bulgaria.....5,000  
From Greece.....5,000  
From Syria.....20,000  
From Iran.....15,000

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Washington Comment: Compare the above figures with those given in SC-3375, distributed on 24 February 1947, which lists the number of Armenians who have departed from Iran and Syria for Soviet Armenia.

2. There are an additional 15,000 Armenians concentrated in Egypt, most of them from the Sudan, and these will have preference over those now planning to emigrate from Turkey. The present Soviet plan is to send the Armenians from Turkey in one of the last convoys.
3. Travellers crossing the border report that the Armenians are dissatisfied in their new environment and are urging their relatives to remain where they are.
4. Russians are reported to be moving in Armenian circles in Turkey in an effort to determine the origin of these derogatory rumors, and as a result the local Armenians are terrified of involving emigrant relatives and friends and are divulging no information. They are also refusing to disclose the contents of any letters smuggled out of Erivan.

Washington Comment: See SC-2070, distributed on 27 December 1946, which mentions unfavorable housing and living conditions prevailing in Soviet Armenia.

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~

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